

CLAIMS

1. A water-soluble oligopeptide and a water-soluble salt thereof having 3 to 7 amino acid units comprising a prolyl-isoleucyl-glycyl unit or an isoleucyl-glycyl-seryl unit.
2. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptide is prolyl-isoleucyl-glycine.
3. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptide is isoleucyl-glycyl-serine.
4. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptide comprises a prolyl-isoleucyl-glycyl unit and a glycyl unit or a seryl unit.
5. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 4, wherein the oligopeptide is glycyl-prolyl-isoleucyl-glycine.
6. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 4, wherein the oligopeptide is prolyl-isoleucyl-glycyl-serine.
7. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptide comprises a glycyl-prolyl-isoleucyl-glycyl unit and a seryl unit or a threonyl unit.
8. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 7, wherein the oligopeptide is glycyl-prolyl-isoleucyl-glycyl-serine.
9. The water-soluble oligopeptide and water-soluble salt thereof according to claim 7, wherein the oligopeptide is glycyl-prolyl-isoleucyl-glycyl-threonine.

10. An epithelial cell growth promoter comprising at least one selected from the water-soluble oligopeptides and water-soluble salts thereof according to either one of claims 1 to 9 as an active ingredient.
11. The epithelial cell growth promoter according to claim 10, which is in the form of a hair growth agent.
12. The epithelial cell growth promoter according to claim 11, which is in the form of a hair growth agent active in the telogen phase of a hair cycle.